

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this patent application:

Claims 1 to 7 (canceled).

8. (new) A canal preparation device comprising a support, a treatment instrument including a shank, and a contra-angle including a head, wherein the shank of the instrument includes a rotational drive, and wherein the head of the contra-angle has a base including a snap fastener cooperating with the shank so that, responsive to pushing, the shank is engaged in the head, and the shank is snap-fastened in the head.

9. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 8 wherein the base of the head of the contra-angle is made of a deformable material.

10. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 9 wherein the base of the head includes a diamond-shaped opening for allowing the shank of the instrument to pass when the instrument is pressed onto the head of the contra-angle.

11. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 9 wherein the base of the head includes an oval-shaped opening for allowing the shank of the instrument to pass when the instrument is pressed onto the head of the contra-angle.

12. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 9 wherein the base of the head includes a diamond-shaped opening for allowing the shank of the instrument to disengage from the head of the contra-angle.

13. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 9 wherein the base of the head includes an oval-shaped opening for allowing the shank of the instrument to disengage from the head of the contra-angle.

14. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 8 wherein the instrument is made of steel.

15. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 8 wherein the head of the contra-angle is made of a material that allows one use only.

16. (new) The canal preparation device of claim 8 wherein the rotational drive is a pinion.